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SilverHawks

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IN THE GALAXY OF LIMBO, THE DEADLY MOB BOSS **MON★STAR** HAS ESCAPED FROM PRISON, AFTER CENTURIES OF CAPTIVITY. WITH HIS NEWFOUND FREEDOM, HE MOVES TO ENACT HIS REVENGE ON THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS CAPTIVITY.

COMMANDER STARGAZER, A GRIZZLED SPACE COP, IS THE ONE WHO STOPPED MON★STAR'S PREVIOUS RAMPAGE. HE BROUGHT TOGETHER A SPECIAL TEAM OF LAW ENFORCERS, THE LIKES OF WHICH HAD NEVER BEEN SEEN BEFORE. BUT NOW, A NEW TEAM IS NEEDED...

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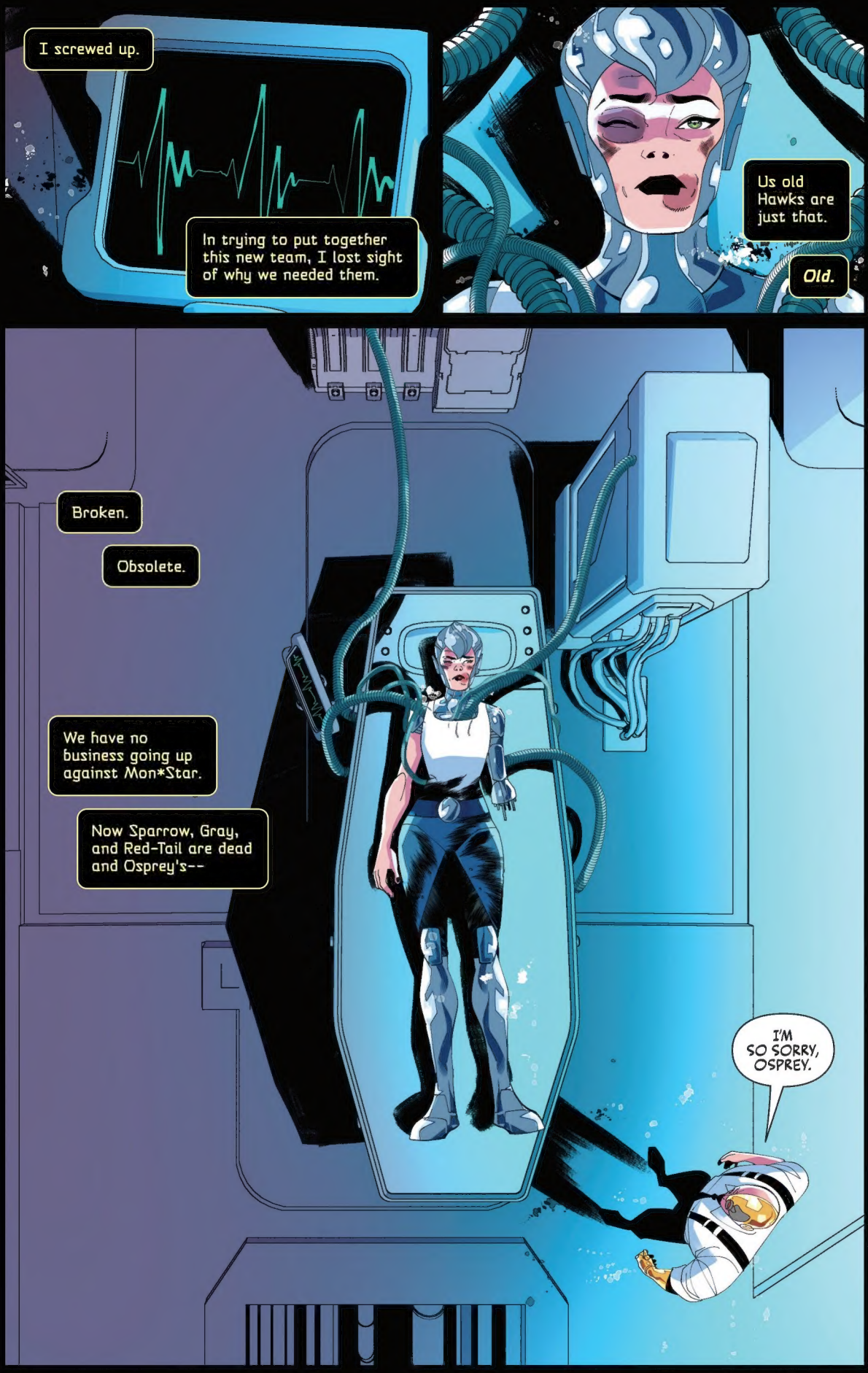
I screwed up.
In trying to put together this new team, I lost sight of why we needed them.
Us old Hawks are just that.
Old.
Broken.
Obsolete.
We have no business going up against Mon*Star.
Now Sparrow, Gray, and Red-Tail are dead and Osprey's--
I'M SO SORRY, OSPREY.

YOU COULDN'T HAVE STOPPED US.
WE ALL KNEW WHAT WE WERE SIGNING UP FOR WHEN WE PUT OUR WINGS ON AGAIN.
WE HAD TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE ON THE PLANET OF MIMES.
NONE OF THIS IS YOUR FAULT.
IT'S MON*STAR'S.
MAKE HIM PAY FOR IT.
STARGAZER...
...WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

WE'RE LOSING HIM.
THE DAMAGE HE SUSTAINED DURING WINDHAMMERS'S ATTACK ON THE PLANET OF THE MIMES WAS TOO MUCH.
CAN YOU SAVE HIM?
HIS HEART'S FAILING AND HIS BODY IS TOO WEAK TO SUPPORT A TRANSPLANT.
WILL?
HE'S DYING.
I CAN FEEL IT.
DR. GHEMAKAIN ISN'T GOING TO LET THAT HAPPEN, I PROMISE YOU.
NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WE'RE... CONNECTED. WE HAVE BEEN SINCE WE WERE BORN.
IF HE'S IN PAIN, I CAN FEEL IT. IF I'M IN PAIN, HE CAN.
IF HE DIES, SO WILL *I*.

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
WE CAN SAVE YOUR BROTHER, BUT THE PROCEDURE IS IRREVERSIBLE. IT INVOLVES REPLACING THE MAJORITY OF HIS BODY WITH METAL COMPONENTS.
AND, IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THEN YOU WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH IT AS WELL, I SUSPECT.
WHATEVER IT IS...
...IF IT MEANS SAVING MY BROTHER'S LIFE...
...THEN DO IT.
Me too.
SORRY, LITTLE ONE.
NO KIDS.
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO HIM?
HE LOST HIS FAMILY DURING THE ATTACK. HE DOESN'T HAVE ANYONE LEFT.
I DON'T KNOW.

But, I'll make sure he's taken care of.

TAKKA TAKKA
TAKKA

KASHOOOM
KASHOOM
AGAIN!
AGAIN!
AGAIN!
SHOOM
SHOOM
SHOOM
KRAK
ENOUGH!

I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE ANGRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED...
...BUT THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A TRAINING SESSION, AND YET YOU'RE OUT HERE TRYING TO KILL ME.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP AGAINST, KID.
MON*STAR ISN'T GOING TO GO EASY ON YOU.
HE'LL RIP YOUR SPINAL CORD OUT AND LAUGH WHILE DOING IT.
HE'S A KILLER AND ALL WE'VE GOT LEFT IS YOU...
...A *LOUNGE SINGER*, A *MAGICIAN*, AND A COUPLE OF *GRUNTS* WHO ARE BARELY OUT OF THE ACADEMY...
...AND WHO EVEN KNOWS WHEN THEY'LL BE READY FOR BATTLE.
IT'S NOT GOING TO BE ENOUGH.
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP HIM.

SINI*STAR DINER
ONE WEEK LATER
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS, TEMIRE.
ANDRIL, YOU *SAID* YOU COULD HACK THIS.
DON'T FALL APART ON ME NOW, WE'RE ALMOST DONE.
YOU DIDN'T TELL ME WE'D BE STEALING FROM MON*STAR.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU'D BE SUCH A BABY ABOUT IT.
LOOK, ONCE THEY SHOW UP WITH THE MONEY, YOU AND I ARE GOING TO BE DROWNING IN LIMBO CREDITS.
YOU CAN AFFORD TO BUY YOURSELF ALL THE TISSUES YOU NEED TO WIPE AWAY THOSE LITTLE BABY TEARS.
SPEAK OF THE DEVIL...

...YES-MAN AND BUZZ-SAW.
WHERE IS IT?
DID YOU BRING THE CREDITS?
AFTER WE SEE IT.
AND AS A WORD OF WARNING...
...IF THIS IS SOME SORT OF GAME, IF YOU'RE TRYING TO PLAY US, MON*STAR HAS GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS FOR US TO BRING YOU BACK TO HIM...
...IN PIECES.

WE HAD A KEY FOR THAT. WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH EASIER.
AH... YES...THE BOSS IS GOING TO BE VERY HAPPY.
HE HAS MISSED SKY-RUNNER DEEPLY.
I'M NOT GOING TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT A MAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS SQUID.
I HOPE THE TWO OF THEM LIVE A LONG HAPPY LIFE.
NOW, ABOUT THAT PAYMENT.
WELL, THE THING IS, THE BOSS MAN DOESN'T TAKE KINDLY TO PEOPLE *STEALING* FROM HIM.
YOU ADD EXTORTION ON TO THAT AND...
...IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL BE BRINGING YOU BACK IN PIECES *AFTER ALL.*
NOBODY'S BRINGING ANY-ONE ANYWHERE, YES-MAN.

NOT WHILE THE SILVERHAWKS ARE ON DUTY.

I THOUGHT THE BOSS HAD KILLED ALL OF THE SILVERHAWKS.
THEY'RE LIKE COCKROACHES. THEY JUST KEEP COMING.
YOU SQUASH THEM, I'LL DEAL WITH SKY-RUNNER.
OF COURSE.
HEY!
UNTIL YOU PAY US, YOU *DON'T* GET THE SQUID.
YOU'RE LUCKY THAT THE SILVERHAWKS SHOWED UP.
COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS AND KEEP OUT OF MY WAY.
SWOOOSH
TEMIRE, WE SHOULD GO. LET'S NOT PUSH OUR LUCK.
WE--

I GOT ONE GIANT SQUID MAKIN' A RUN FOR IT.
YOU WANT ME TO GIVE CHASE?
NEGATIVE, BLUEGRASS. LET SKY-RUNNER GO...
...AND STICK CLOSE IN CASE WE NEED AN EXFIL.
AT LEAST NOW WE KNOW WHY MON*STAR'S BEEN ON THE WARPATH.
SHIIIIK
SKREEE
SHRAAK

HEY!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
LISTEN UP!
MON*STAR WILL PAY *A MILLION* LIMBO BUCKS TO ANY ONE OF YOU THAT TAKES DOWN THE SILVERHAWKS!
HELL, FOR A MILLION LIMBO BUCKS, I'D TAKE DOWN MY OWN BROTHER.

LUCKY SHOT, PUNK.
BUT, IT'LL BE YOUR LAST--
KA-POW! RIGHT IN THE KISSER.
FWUMP
SHRAAAAK
HE'S NOT THE ONLY ONE, STEELHEART...
THAT'S ALL YOU GOT? BARELY BROKE A SWEAT.
DON'T GET COCKY, STEELWILL.
WE'RE NOT DONE YET, THERE'S STILL YES-MAN.

...LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE MADE SOME FRIENDS.
IT'S A DISTRACTION.
YES-MAN'S USING THEM FOR COVER SO HE CAN ESCAPE.
YOU AND STEELWILL TAKE CARE OF THEM, HOTWING AND I WILL FIND YES-MAN.
USE ONLY ENOUGH FORCE TO STOP THEM--
--THEY'VE GOTTEN THEMSELVES INVOLVED IN SOMETHING THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND. THEY SHOULDN'T SUFFER JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE DESPERATE.
YOU HEARD HIM, STEELWILL.
KID GLOVES ON FOR THESE CLOWNS.
BAH.
WHERE'S THE FUN IN THAT?
SPLAK

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO FLEE AND LEAVE YOUR PARTNER BEHIND?
I'VE GOT WHAT I NEED, WHAT'S THE POINT IN STICKING AROUND?
BEFORE YOU GO...
...THERE'S A MESSAGE I NEED YOU TO DELIVER TO MON*STAR.
THIS WAS NEVER ABOUT THE MONEY.
THIS WAS ABOUT LETTING MON*STAR KNOW WE CAN GET CLOSE.
GO BACK TO YOUR RULER AND TELL HIM...
...THAT HIS REIGN IS OVER.
THE REMNANT IS COMING.

STARGAZER, THERE'S SOMETHING HERE YOU NEED TO SEE.
WHAT IS IT?
LET ME SHOW YOU.
OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF WEEKS, I'VE NOTICED THAT WE'VE BEEN CONSUMING MORE ENERGY THAN WE SHOULD BE.
ALL OF MY READINGS WERE OFF.
IT'S PROBABLY JUST A CALIBRATION ISSUE.
GET THE I.T. EGGHEADS TO LOOK AT IT, NOT ME.
UNLESS IT CONCERNS THE SILVERHAWKS DIRECTLY, I DON'T HAVE THE TIME.
BUT, IT DOES.
IT INVOLVES BOTH THE SILVERHAWKS AND THE CHILD MIME THAT WE THOUGHT HAD RUN AWAY.

I DID CALL IN THE I.T. EGGHEADS WHEN I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHERE ALL THE EXTRA POWER WAS GOING.
IT TOOK THEM SOME TIME TO FIND THE SOURCE OF THE DRAIN.
WHOEVER WAS SYPHONING POWER FROM US DID AN INCREDIBLE JOB OF COVERING THEIR TRACKS.
ULTIMATELY, WE TRACED IT TO THIS DECOMMISSIONED CRYO-CHAMBER. IT WAS DEFECTIVE, THOUGHT IRREPARABLE, AND SLATED TO BE DISPOSED OF.
TURNS OUT, SOMEONE NOT ONLY REPAIRED IT. THEY PUT IT TO USE...
...WITHOUT TRAINING OR ASSISTANCE, THIS KID SOMEHOW TURNED HIMSELF INTO A SILVERHAWK.
IT'S QUITE INCREDIBLE, REALLY.
GUESS HE WASN'T WILLING TO TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER.

STEELWILL, STEELHEART. HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP OUT THERE?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT US, BOSS...
...WE'RE HAVING A BLAST.
YOU'RE TOO LATE, SILVER-HAWKS.
WHERE'S YES-MAN?
HE LEFT. FLED OFF INTO SPACE, BACK TO HIS MASTER TO DELIVER A MESSAGE JUST LIKE A GOOD LITTLE SERVANT.
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT.
THERE'S A RECKONING COMING.
IT'S BEEN A HALF A MILLENNIUM IN THE MAKING.
PEOPLE ARE GOING TO DIE.
AND WHEN THE DUST SETTLES...
...LIMBO WILL NO LONGER EXIST.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE SILVERHAWKS ARE HUNDREDS OF YEARS TOO LATE TO STOP IT.
CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:

A BAPTISM OF FIRE!
The first arc of the SilverHawks' all-new adventures closes out with a special flashback tale of the elite law enforcers' earliest days. Nearly 100 years ago, Mon*Star and his gangster crew held Bedlama in an iron grip of terror - until Commander Stargazer and his untested team went head-to-head to take them down. When the dust cleared, Stargazer had his man - but the price of victory was higher than he ever imagined! Future historians ED BRISSON and GEORGE KAMBADAIS bring readers back to where it all began in SilverHawks #5 - supported by documentary evidence from MARK SPEARS, JAE LEE & JUNE CHUNG, JAMES STOKOE, GERALDO BORGES, DREW MOSS, LESLEY "LEIRIX" LI, MANIX, and DAVID COUSENS!

VAMPIRELLA'S MOST PROLIFIC AUTHOR TEASES HER NEXT EPIC ADVENTURE!

Tom, as always, fans are going to be excited to see you writing more *Vampirella*. You've already gone well past 100 issues writing the character, and by our count you're currently the most prolific creator in the character's history. At this point, how naturally does her voice and world come to you?

It's like slipping into a nice warm sweater. HA! Out of all the characters I've written, I seem to find her the most comfortable to write. It probably has to do with how long I've been writing her — over 25 years, off and on. I just *get* her — her, and the world in which she lives. It's always a blast sitting down to come up with her next adventures.

This new series continues on the path you laid out in *Vampirella Strikes!* — and to be clear, I'm talking about the series that launched in 2022, not the ones with the same name that you did in 2013 and 1995 [laughs]. Fans who want to dip into an awesome post-apocalypse-tinged vision of the Daughter of Drakulon are fine to jump right in, but for the benefit of that crowd (and avoiding major spoilers), how would you catch people up?

This series picks up pretty much where the 2022 *Vampirella Strikes!* ends. We have Vampirella setting herself up as a kind of private investigator in a section of Sepulcher City called the Menagerie. The Menagerie is where many of the supernatural creatures that exist in the world have come to work and settle down. At the beginning of *Vampirella: Armageddon*, we have Vampi and her partner, the werewolf named Dagwood, working a case of missing immigrants to the city. What's happening to busloads of people relocating to the great walled city? Well, Vampirella is about to find out — and it has an awful lot to do with something she's responsible for doing during the run on *Vampirella Strikes!*, as well as a war currently being waged in Hell.

As we're gearing up for this series on our end, there are a lot of hints about a new threat not of this mortal plane. Can you tease readers a bit about how this new foe or opposition is coming up, and what challenges it will pose for Vampi?

We don't have just one foe, we got a whole *bunch 'a* foes! And people who followed my Vampi stuff back in the '90s will get a kick out of some of the characters who are being reintroduced. What's interesting about this series, so far, is that I keep topping myself — just when I think I've got it all figured out, BOOM! There's another situation that develops and whole lotta new problems for Vampirella spring up! Yeah, there's nothing like cool villains, and in this series, there are more than enough. Vampirella's got her work cut out for her.

The incredible Kewber Baal is joining the party to draw this new title. He joins the deep roster of artists with whom you've worked on the franchise, like Louis Small Jr., Ed McGuinness, Amanda Conner, Johnny Desjardins, Igor Lima, Daniel Maine, Jonathan Lau, and so many other greats. How excited are you to see Kewber bring your scripts to the page?

What's been awesome about my years of writing *Vampirella* is the incredible bevy of artists that I've worked with who have helped bring my words to life. What I've tried to do with each of these series is write stories that play to the strengths of the artist that will be drawing the book. For example, when I was approached to write *Vampirella: Armageddon*, I immediately began thinking of the artist that I wanted to work with, and how their style would shape the visuals of my story. I'd worked with Kewber on my *Vengeance of Vampirella* run and absolutely adored his stuff. He was the first person that I thought of when I started to plot where this series would go. His strong visual style helped me to come up with some pretty crazy concepts. The art on this book is going to blow your socks off!

One fun angle for the first issue of this series is that one of the covers features art by superstar Mark Spears showcasing characters from his hit *Mark Spears Monsters* series — and in turn, a cover for issue #6 of his title will feature Vampirella. You've been involved in a couple of memorable crossovers with Vampi before; for the fun of it, are there any dream characters that you would like for her to interact with?

Oh, man, there are tons of characters that I think she'd be perfect to interact with, she's incredibly versatile. The one character that immediately comes to mind is Hellboy. I bet that would be ridiculously fun to write. Batman would be really cool too!

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LEIRIX LI

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ART BY
MANIX

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FOIL
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